

Revelation 19:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

Analysis

And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:.... This verse from Revelation's vision of hallelujah chorus, marriage supper, christ's return - final victory, word of god rides forth employs apocalyptic imagery rich with Old Testament allusions and symbolic meaning. The Greek text uses vivid apocalyptic language characteristic of Jewish prophetic literature, drawing heavily from Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah, and Zechariah.

The symbolism must be interpreted within its first-century context while recognizing timeless spiritual realities. The imagery would resonate powerfully with persecuted believers facing Roman imperial cult worship, providing hope that despite present suffering, Christ reigns sovereign and will consummate His kingdom. The apocalyptic genre uses symbolic numbers (seven, twelve, 144,000), colors, beasts, and cosmic imagery to convey theological truth rather than photographic descriptions.

Christologically, Revelation consistently exalts Jesus as the victorious Lamb, the faithful witness, the King of kings and Lord of lords. Every vision ultimately points to Christ's supremacy, His finished redemptive work, and His certain return to judge the living and dead and establish the new creation.

Historical Context

John received this revelation circa AD 95 during Domitian's persecution, exiled on Patmos for his testimony. The seven churches of Asia Minor faced increasing pressure to participate in emperor worship and pagan religious practices. Refusal meant economic hardship, social ostracism, and potential martyrdom. Understanding this context illuminates Revelation's encouragement to faithful endurance.

The apocalyptic genre was familiar to first-century Jewish and Christian readers. Rather than newspaper-style predictions, apocalyptic literature uses symbolic imagery to reveal spiritual realities behind earthly events, encourage the faithful, warn the unfaithful, and assert God's ultimate sovereignty over history. Parallels with Daniel, Ezekiel, and intertestamental apocalyptic writings would help original readers decode the symbols.

Rome's imperial cult demanded worship of Caesar as divine, placing Christians in impossible situations—compromise their faith or face persecution. Revelation identifies Rome as "Babylon" and assures believers that despite appearances, the Lamb conquered through His death and resurrection, and all earthly kingdoms will submit to His reign.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Revelation 19:1 reveal God's character, particularly His sovereignty, holiness, and justice?

2. What specific encouragement or warning does this verse offer for maintaining faithful Christian witness amid cultural pressure?
3. How does this passage point to Christ's victory and the hope of new creation, and how should that shape your present priorities?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	μετὰ	ταῦτα	ἵκουσα	φωνὴν	ὄχλου	πολλοῦ			
And	after	these things	I heard	voice	people	of much			
G2532	G3326	G5023	G191	G5456	G3793	G4183			
μεγάλην	ἐν	τῷ	οὐρανῷ	λεγόντος,	Ἄλληλουϊά·	ἡ			
a great	in	G3588	heaven	saying	Alleluia	G3588			
G3173	G1722		G3772	G3004	G239				
σωτηρία	καὶ	ἡ	δόξα	καὶ	ἡ	τιμὴ	καὶ	ἡ	δύναμις
Salvation	And	G3588	glory	And	G3588	honour	And	G3588	power
G4991	G2532		G1391	G2532		G5092	G2532		G1411
Κυρίω	τῷ	Θεῷ	ἡμῶν						
unto the Lord	G3588	God	our						
G2962		G2316	G2257						

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 11:15 (References Lord): And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

1 Chronicles 29:11 (Glory): Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

Matthew 6:13 (Glory): And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Revelation 19:6 (References God): And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

Revelation 12:10 (Salvation): And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Psalms 148:1 (References Lord): Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights.

Psalms 146:1 (References Lord): Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Psalms 115:18 (References Lord): But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD.

Psalms 3:8 (Salvation): Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.

Psalms 150:1 (References God): Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.